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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET - U.S.~~  
~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Railroad Loadings and Weapons Firing at the Templin Training Grounds

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 14 March 1955

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REFERENCES

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. After 20 February 1955, many loadings and unloadings were observed at the Templin railroad station. The shipments allegedly came from, or went in, the direction of Eberswalde. Vehicular traffic in the town increased considerably. Shipments observed included:

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12 February. A tank which went from the railroad station toward Hammelspring.

18 February. At 1900, 3 tanks, and 7 trucks which went from the station toward Hammelspring.

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20 February. A major tank shipment which was unloaded. <sup>1</sup>

At 1730, 24 trucks towing 6 guns, probably 152-mm field howitzers, which were unloaded and left toward Hammelspring. <sup>2</sup>

21 February. At 1900, 15 T-34 tanks and 4 JS-3 tanks, 4 trucks, and 1 sedan which were unloaded and left toward Hammelspring. <sup>1</sup>

22 February. At 1100, loading of 25 trucks and 3 sedans which came from the direction of Hammelspring.

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At noon, loading of tanks and 5 trucks which came from the direction of Hammelspring. <sup>1</sup>

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23 February. At 1325, a train with trucks and approximately 20 canvas-covered tanks which passed through the station. The train came from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeded toward Vogelsang. <sup>5</sup>

2. Between 7 and 23 February, firing, particularly of individual guns, was frequently heard from the training grounds. Major firing practices were held at 1900 on 7 February and at 0930 and 1830 on 8 February.

3. It was learned that Camp Hammelspring was partially occupied. Numerous fresh imprints of vehicles were seen at the gates of the camp. <sup>1</sup>

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4. The following shipments were observed at the Templin railroad station between 18 and 25 February:

18 February. A shipment of 8 boxcars with personnel, and many flatcars carrying 4 x 37-mm AA guns and 8 armored personnel carriers mounting 20-mm twin-barreled AA guns, which came from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeded northeastward. 4

21 February. At 1500, loading of a shipment of 5 x 45-mm AT guns, and 20 trucks with personnel

which left toward Prenzlau at 1800. 1

At 1700, loading of a shipment of 7 T-34/85 tanks

8 JS-3 tanks, and 15 trucks with personnel. 1

22 February. At 1230, loading of a shipment of 2 JS-3 tanks, 2 SP guns and 27 trucks with personnel

which left toward Prenzlau at 1600. 1  
A shipment of 4 boxcars and 30 flatcars with tanks, which came from the direction of Templin and was unloaded in Neuruppin. 3

On 25 February, a train of approximately 30 flatcars and boxcars carrying 120-mm mortars which was headed toward Eberswalde was seen at the Brietz railroad station near Eberswalde. 5

5. Motor vehicles and weapons observed at the Templin railroad station en route toward Vogelsang between 7 and 20 February included:

7 February. At 0630, 10 trucks with 5 x 122-mm field howitzers

8 February. At 1130, 15 trucks with personnel

9 February. At 1400, 12 trucks with personnel

10 February. At 1030, 20 trucks with personnel

At 1700, 18 trucks with personnel and 5 x 85-mm AT guns

12 February. At 1830, 1 tank, presumably a T-34/85 tank, and 15 trucks with personnel

13 February. At 0915, 8 trucks with personnel

14 February. At 1500, 6 x 37-mm AT guns and 10 trucks with personnel

15 February. At 1530, 6 x 85-mm AT guns, 10 x 122-mm field howitzers and 40 trucks with personnel

16 February. At 0930, 12 trucks with personnel

17 February, At 1200, 5 trucks with personnel

20 February. At 1730, 8 x 122-mm field howitzers and 20 trucks with personnel

At 0900 on 11 February, armored personnel carrier and 5 trucks with personnel arrived in Templin from the direction of Vogelsang.

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1.  Comment. The unloading involved a tank firing detail of the 25th Tank Div from Prenzlau.  The partial occupation of Camp Hammelspring is explained by the firing practices held at the Templin training grounds. 25X1
2.  Comment. The unloading presumably involved elements of the 71st Light Arty Brig from Bernau. 25X1
3.  Comment. The trains observed on 22 and 23 February may have been identical. Tanks on normal troop trains are usually not covered by tarpaulins. Although  the train carried trucks, it is possible that tanks of the new type (T-54?) were shipped to Neuruppin. The assumption is supported by the fact that additional tanks were reported to have arrived in the zone at that time. 25X1  
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4.  Comment. The AAA shipment, which presumably went to Wustrow, cannot be explained. 25X1
5.  Comment. The shipment cannot be explained. 25X1
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